

Message Text

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT:MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE

1. IN HIS MEETING ON FEBRUARY 24 WITH SECRETARY SCHLESINGER IN WASHINGTON, SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS STATED HIS BELIEF THAT THE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT AS NOW BEING DEVELOPED COULD PROVE USEFUL IN MANY WAYS OTHER THAN ITS INTENDED USE SOLELY WITHIN NATO. HE INVITED US VIEWS.

2. WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY VIEWED THE 1975 MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE AS DIRECTED TO A WIDER RANGE OF NATO ACTIVITY THAN PREVIOUS GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS. IN BRIEF WE SEE IT AS GUIDANCE FOR DEFENSE PLANNING, INCLUDING FORCES AND
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SUPPORTING OR RELATED PROGRAMS, RATHER THAN SOLELY FOR

FORCE PLANNING. WE SEE IT AS A POLICY DOCUMENT TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES, NATO COMMITTEES, AND NATIONS. IN ADDITION AND EQUALLY IMPORTANT, THE 75 GUIDANCE SHOULD FURNISH THE BASIS FOR AND INCLUDE A LONG-RANGE CONCEPT FOR NATO DEFENSE WHICH CAN BE USED FOR REFERENCE AND EXPLANATORY PURPOSES IN PUBLIC AND PARLIAMENTARY DISCUSSIONS (STATE 2644).

3. THIS LATTER POINT RESPONDS DIRECTLY TO SEC GEN'S INTEREST IN MAKING WIDER USE OF DOCUMENT OUTSIDE NATO. WE LOOK TO DRC TO PREPARE AN UNCLASSIFIED STATEMENT OF THE LONG-RANGE CONCEPT FOR NATO DEFENSE FOR APPROVAL AND

RELEASE BY MINISTERS AT THE SPRING DPC MEETING, JUST AS AN UNCLASSIFIED STATEMENT ON AD-70 WAS RELEASED AS AN ANNEX TO THE MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE OF 3-4 DECEMBER 1970.

4. MISSION SHOULD CONVEY ABOVE VIEWS TO SEC GEN. IT MIGHT BE USEFUL ALSO TO RAISE IMPORTANCE OF AN UNCLASSIFIED STATEMENT OF THE LONG-RANGE CONCEPT FOR NATO DEFENSE SHORTLY THEREAFTER AT A PERM REP LUNCHEON.

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